



**Northern Ireland  
Assembly**

**COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Tuesday, 20 October 2020  
Room 30, Parliament Buildings**

**Present:** Mr Colm Gildernew MLA (Chairperson)  
Ms Pam Cameron MLA (Deputy Chairperson)  
Ms Paula Bradshaw MLA  
Mr Gerry Carroll MLA  
Mr Alan Chambers MLA  
Mr Alex Easton MLA  
Ms Órlaithí Flynn MLA\*  
Mr Pat Sheehan MLA

**Apologies:** Colin McGrath MLA

**In Attendance:** Ms Éilis Haughey (Clerk)  
Ms Jean Barkley (Assistant Assembly Clerk)  
Mr Brendan Miskelly (Clerical Officer)

*\* Ms Flynn attended the meeting via video-conference.*

*The meeting commenced at 1.06 pm in public session.*

**1. Apologies**

As above.

**2. Chairperson's Business**

There was no Chairperson's business.

*The meeting was suspended at 1.09 pm and resumed at 1.12 pm.*

**3. Committee Inquiry COVID-19 and its impact on Care Homes – Stakeholder Evidence**

Representatives from NIC-ICTU joined the meeting via video-conference at 1.07 pm.

Mr John Patrick Clayton, Policy Officer, UNISON

Ms Rita Devlin, Associate Director of Nursing Policy and Practice, RCN

Mr Alan Perry, Representative, GMB

Ms Anne Speed, Chair of NIC-ICTU Health Committee and Head of Bargaining and Representation, UNISON

The Union representatives provided views on the Committee's inquiry on the impact of COVID-19 on care homes.

The briefing was followed by a question and answer session.

The Chairperson thanked the union representatives for their attendance.

The briefing session was reported by Hansard.

The Committee noted the following papers relevant to this session:

- an updated RaISe briefing paper on COVID-19 and Care Homes – an International Perspective;
- RCN's written submission to the Committee's Inquiry;
- a copy of UNISON's submission to the Department of Health Rapid Learning Initiative on Covid-19 and Care Homes; and
- a copy of UNISON's Stakeholder Engagement on the Draft COVID-19 Care Home Action Plan Phase 2.

*Mr Alex Easton and Mr Alan Chambers left the meeting at 1.56 pm.*

*Mr Pat Sheehan and Ms Paula Bradley left the meeting at 1.57 pm.*

#### **4. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting**

The next committee meeting was scheduled to take place on Thursday, 22 October 2020 at 9.30 am in the Senate Chamber.

*The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 1.58 pm.*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Chairperson*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_